

1 THE HONORABLE JOHN C. COUGHENOUR
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7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
8 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
9 AT SEATTLE

10 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

11 Plaintiff,

12 v.

13 SHAWN CORY GREEN,

14 Defendant.

CASE NO. CR20-0027-JCC

ORDER

15 This matter comes before the Court on Defendant Shawn Cory Green's unopposed
16 motion to proceed with a guilty plea hearing by video or telephone conference (Dkt. No. 36).
17 Having thoroughly considered the motion and the relevant record, the Court hereby GRANTS
18 the motion for the reasons explained herein.

19 **I. BACKGROUND**

20 On February 26, 2020, Mr. Green was charged by indictment with two counts of
21 possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute. (Dkt. No. 1.) Trial is presently
22 scheduled for March 15, 2021. (See Dkt. Nos. 31, 34.) The parties have reached a plea
23 agreement, and Mr. Green moves to proceed with a guilty plea hearing by video or telephone
24 conference. (See generally Dkt. No. 36.)

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1 **II. DISCUSSION**

2 Delaying Mr. Green's plea hearing would cause serious harm to the interests of justice.
3 *See* Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136,
4 §§ 15002(b)(2)(A), (b)(4), 134 Stat. 281, 528–29 (2020); W.D. Wash. General Order No. 17-20
5 (Dec. 23, 2020), 14-20 (Sept. 24, 2020), 04-20 (Mar. 30, 2020). In-person proceedings will not
6 resume in this District until at least April 1, 2021. *See* W.D. Wash. General Order No. 18-20 at 2
7 (Dec. 30, 2020). Delaying Mr. Green's plea hearing, and therefore his sentencing, by at least
8 seven weeks would cause serious harm to the interests of justice because Mr. Green has a strong
9 interest in the speedy resolution of this matter, having already reached an agreement with the
10 Government.
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12 **III. CONCLUSION**

13 For the foregoing reasons, the Court GRANTS the motion to proceed with a guilty plea
14 hearing by video or telephone conference (Dkt. No. 36). The Court ORDERS that Defendant's
15 guilty plea hearing before a Magistrate Judge be set as soon as practicable and be conducted by
16 video conference. The Court DIRECTS the presiding judge to establish a record of Defendant's
17 consent for the hearing, in accordance with General Order No. 04-20.
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19 DATED this 8th day of February 2021.

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John C. Coughenour
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE